

Incident Report – XXX  
23' Parker with 200 HP Yamaha 4-stroke Outboard

Case Report: XXX-2006-002-01 Initial

Occurrence Date: December 5, 2006

Equipment: Yamaha 200 HP 4-stroke outboard

Event: Struck an unknown submerged object

Model and Serial Number (New Engine): F200TXR; 60L X 1006392 K?

Serial Number (Original Engine): 601271; 2002 model year

On Tuesday December 5, 2006 XXX (vessel operator), XXX, and XXX were conducting field operations in the Assateague, VA area for a crab survey by XXX who was not onboard at the time. The boat was launched at Assateague (ST. Park?). They had completed their field work in 10-15 kt. winds and were returning to the launch site cruising at 33000 RPM crossing a dump site just outside channel (but near the green marker) when they hit an unmarked submerged object in what they feel was a glancing blow rather than full on judging by the sound, lack of impact, and that the motor did not kick up on contact with object. At first they thought they had run over a derelict crab pot which are common in this area. No one was injured in the incident. At first observation it appeared that only the propeller was damaged; one blade bent and a second dented. The vessel and motor vibrated excessively returning to dock. Upon further inspection after returning to the laboratory there was also damage to the lower unit and shaft. The vessel was taken to XXX in Easton on Thursday December 7, 2006 to determine extent of damage and to obtain a quote to repair. We have a lower unit on hand due to replacement of this motor in July from water damage to the power head. This may be avoided in the future by vessel operators transiting in the channel were possible; however, risks of hitting submerged objects are an inherent safety problem in boating. Other than being out of the channel, there appears to be no indication of inappropriate boating protocols or lapse in observing proper seamanship training involved in this incident.